No deduction for clubs on WEEKLY.

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TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

CITY OF WASHINGTON, SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 4, 1855.

CONGRESSIONAL. SPEECH OF MR. SMITH,

On the naturalization laws and know-nothingism; deliv-and in the House of Representatives February 6, 1855.

Mr. SMITH said : Mr. SMITH said:
Mr. Charman: It had not been my intention to address
the House at length upon any subject during the present
session; but the introduction of a bill, by one of my colleagues, [Mr. Taylon,] to alter the naturalization laws, has
induced me to change that determination, and claim the
indulgence of the committee while I submit my views on
this important subject. This I shall do very briefly, as I
wish to speak also of the causes which have led to this
proposition.

proposition.

This is a legitimate subject for discussion, and if there exists any defect in the present law, it ought to be amended. Before a foreigner can become a citizen of this country, under the laws of Congress, he must prove in open

tet. A residence of five years in the United States.

2d. A residence of one year in the State or Territory where application is made.

3d. A good moral character.

4th. Attachment to our government, its constitution, and

laws.

And, in addition to this, the applicant must take an oath of abjuration of allegiance to all foreign powers whatsoever, and particularly that prince or potentate of which he was last a subject, and the oath of allegiance or fidelity to

of the legislature, and new statutes would not likely engage more attention from the judiciary than the old. If the law, as it now stands, be executed, no foreigner but a person of good character can ever become a citizen of

the law, as it now stands, be executed, no foreigner but a person of good character can ever become a citizen of the United States.

It is said, however, that the object of the mover of this new law is to prevent the immigration of foreign paupers, convicts, and felons into this country; and the importation of these classes from foreign countries is the evil now complained of. If such characters are imported into this country it is an evil, and it is our duty to remedy it. But how are we to do it? Will the repeal of the naturalization laws have that effect? Certainly not. On the contrary, it would accomplish directly the reverse of what the advocates of repeal claim as its real object. The classes of foreigners sought to be excluded care nothing for political rights. They do not aspire to the dignity of citizenship and make no inquiry into the political laws of the country to which they flee. But it is different with those who come here, not as fuglitives from justice, but to better their condition in life, and to enjoy the privileges of our free institutions.

condition in life, and to enjoy the privileges of our free institutions.

I shall not now enter into a discussion of the power of Congress to determine the qualification of voters in the States. I do not believe we have any such power under the constitution; and were we to pass a law extending the time necessary for naturalization to twenty-one years, it would not affect the number of votes cast by foreigners at any of our elections. The right to vote, and the right to hold property, are only incidents of citizenship, and may be conferred by the legislatures of the States upon whomsoever they may see proper, whether foreign or native-born. Before a legislator seeks to amend a statute in reference to any subject, he ought to understand what the old law is, the evil, if any, that grows out of it, and the proper remedy to correct that evil. My colleague seems to have aw is, the evil, it any, that grows out of it, and the proper emedy to correct that evil. My colleague seems to have tudied neither, but seeks to base the legislation of Con-ress upon a popular prejudice, and to carry into the stat-tace-book a condemnation of a religious creed. This is in lirect conflict with the spirit of the constitution of the United States—and such legislation is inconsistent with the character of the American Congress.

I am willing to vote for a law, I care not how stringent to provisions may be to exclude namers convicts, and

men of reputation and character from our land.

But, Mr. Chairman, I cannot believe that the object of
this movement to repeal or modify is brought forward for
the honest purpose of improving the naturalization laws
of the country. It has another object in view—another
purpose to accomplish. It seeks to engender prejudices,
strike, and contention between the native and adopted citzen, in order to aid, encourage, and strengthen the new
party which has sprung into existence, very appropriately
called

This ubiquitous organization seems to be shrouded in as such darkness as the forms and ceremonies of the ancient Sleusinian mysteries; but—

"Be thou a spirit of health or goblin damned; Be thy intents wicked or charitable— Thou com'st in such a questionable shape That I will speak to thee."

And in speaking to or of this new party, I shall discu in the following order: 1st. Its origin and constituent elements. 2d. Its mode of action.

4th. Its fruits and ultimate consequences; and
This, sir, presents a large field for discussion, and I cannot hope to do justice to the subject in the brief time allowed me for its consideration. I do not treat this organization lightly. Its secrecy gives it efficiency in action, and arms it with power to do good or evil. It has had but brief existence, and has already startled the timid by its ronderful success. Time-serving politicians, demagogues, and disappointed office-seckers, see in it a means of elevator to place in the public councils, and corrupt men find it a shield to cover their demosit the corrupt men find in it a smell to cover their demerit through the secrecy of its operations. Many "good men and true" have also joined the new order under the belief that it is an honest opposition to Catholics and foreigners, and shrewd politi-cians look to it as a means of ingrafting upon the govern-ment their favorite schemes of political economy. A care-ful inquiry, however, into its origin, elements, objects, pris-ciples, and results, will, in my judgment, dispel its magi-cal power, and disclose to an astonished people its dark designs and dancerous tendencies.

and prove, and difficults to us a anomalism the proposition of the control of the

This, Mr. Chairman, presents one of the most serious objections to this novel organization, and must ultimately lead to the most serious consequences and flagrant abuses. In this model republic, where public sentiment controls not only the destiny of men, but the destiny of the nation, there is something revolting in the idea of secrecy in the action, conduct, or principles of any political organization.

The only means by which the people can arrive at a correct knowledge of the principles, polity, and merits of him who seeks public favor and a position in the councils of State, is by public discussion. And he who dares withhold from the electors his opinions on the political topics of the day is apt to be signally rebuked by the sovereign people when they come to exercise the high privilege of choosing their public servants. This new order, however, attempts to establish a new precedent in political conduct. Instead of a action of the content of the contents and justice of its creed, it seduces them into a midnight to content, and, ere the astonished initiant has time to recover from his amazement at what he sees and hears around him, is induced to take a most horrid oath, which binds him to amport any candidate for political office who shall be nominated by the order to which he belongs. This, sir, is no exagger atton of the oath taken by the members of this new party; and, although we have it not in any authentic shape from the order itself, et it comes to us in such reliable form that

"Now, mark, we are not bound to vote for a candidat of the grand council's nomination, but for any member of the onder, come from any source his nomination may."

This, sir, is equivalent to abolishing all the high privi-

diately assembled, and passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the respective councils under the jurisdiction of this grand council, by their proper officers, are hereby instructed and required to withhold the term—pass from, and forthwith expel from the council, all brothers who did not, as aforesaid, fully support the nominations in the last preceding resolution referred to, and who refused to answer as hereafter required, or who shall not offer an excuse satisfactory to the council for such non-support, and that, for that purpose, said officers are fully empowered to demand and require of each member, of his or their council, that he or they do declare with uplifted hand, in open council, for whom he or they voted at the great Nevember election, and excuse, if any they have to offer, for such non-support as aforesaid."

This decree of the grand council met the determined on

This decree of the grand council met the determined op-position of some of the subordinate councils and inde-pendent members of the order, and caused the editor of the "True American," a member of the new party, to ex-

"Are Americans, sons of freemen, to be driven to the polls like a herd of cattle, there to deposite ballots for hypocrites, knaves, or seoundrels, to them known to be suchmen they individually deride and despise—under the pain of imperial displeasure?

"We who oppose Romanism upon the ground of absolutiam in political matters, and contenum foreignism for its sectional intolerance, are probably among the last to succumb to an imperialism which exceeds the broadest despotism of Russia or Austria. And still, in the name s liberty, of Christian freedom, of regeneration from slavery, we are commanded either to lick the feet of our would-be masters, or to withdraw from companionship with our brethren. 'Oh, liberty! what crimes are committed in thy name!"

The dissatisfaction did not stop here, but, as before re-

The dissatisfaction did not stop here, but, as before remarked, entered the subordinate councils. And at a meeting of the order in Brooklyn the following preamble and olution were unanimously adopted:

resolution were unanimously adopted:

"And whereas the said grand council, at their recent session, adopted a resolution originally suggrested by H. A. T. Granbury, requiring the members of this order, under certain pains and penalties, to confess, under oath, how they voted at the recent election, in palpable violation of the rights and privileges secured to, and so highly prized by, every true American: Therefore,

"Resolved, That we repudiate and condems the aforementioned action of the grand council as anti-American, anti-republican, and the most unwarrantable, abominable, and dongerous assumption of despotic power ever attempted in this republic; in its confessional, penance, and threats of excommunication only equalled by the holy inquisition of Spain, and only worthy of imitation by the grand council of cardinals at Rome."

organization as a political godsend to their hopes and wishes and failen fortunes. And no sooner had its triumphant success been heralded by the telegraph and press to the four corners of the Union, than they rushed to it as did the petry kings of India to the standard of Alexander the Great, in his march from the Indus to the Hydaspes.

That party now gives to it its principal element of strength; and when we consider that the new order is composed of whigs, abolitionists, religious fanatics, and political malcontents, it will readily be perceived that elements so incongruous in themselves, and so fatal to the public weal, cannot be held together without extraordinary and unnatural obligations, of which i shall now speak under the head of

Rs mode of action.

This, Mr. Chairman, presents one of the most serious objections to this novel organization, and must ultimately lead to the most scrious consequences and flagrant abuses. In this model republic, where public sentiment controls not only the destiny of mes, but the destiny of the nation, there is something revolting in the idea of secrety in the action, conduct, or principles of any political organization.

The only means by which the people can arrive at a correct knowledge of the principles, policy, and merits of him reed the control of the public and provided to the principles, policy, and merits of him are the unserruptions of the new order that both the old political parties have become essentially corrupt, and their object is to build by a new one on the ruins of water the controls and political parties have become essentially corrupt, and their organization.

question of the establishment of a Bank of the United States has been long since settled, never I believe to be revived. The question of the tariff has been adjusted, or at least its principles so well settled that no one dreams of ever again making it a party question. The question of how the public lands shall be disposed of has ceased to be a party question; for, although not yet adjusted, the conflicting views entertained by individuals attached to both the old parties has taken it from the arena of party conflict, and so of every other question that formerly divided the democratic and whig parties."

Yes, sir, the question of a United States Bank has been settled, and the opposition are deprived of this lever to move public sentiment in their favor. The question of the tariff is also settled, and they no longer derive any advantage from the captivating cry of "protection to the home industry of the country." To these may be added the question of the independent treasury, which, in 1840 and 1844, furnished my friend from Maryland such a fruitful theme for discussion in delineating his character, and deducing its origin from the financial systems of European despot-

But how, I ask, have these questions been disposed of? Certainly not to suit the views of those who control the destiny of the new party. They have been settled upon the original principles of the democratic party. In the settlement of these questions we had to meet the most de-termined opposition of those who now compose this new order. Many difficulties had to be encountered, and many obstacles overcome, by the democratic party in the settle-ment of these great questions of national policy; and the acknowledgment by the opposition that they have been settled in such manner as to give satisfaction to the counment of these great questions of national poincy; and the acknowledgment by the opposition that they have been settled in such manner as to give satisfaction to the country is the highest tribute to the wisdom and patriotism of that party under whose auspices these important results have been accomplished. And now, sir, if democrats desire to overthrow this system of policy inaugurated by themselves, and which has not only given estisfaction to the whole country, but has extorted from its opponents the acknowledgment of its wisdom, its justice, and adaptation to the wants of the republic, let them join this new organization in sufficient numbers to give it a national triumph. It will then declare its real objects; it will sweep from the statute book those salutary laws under which the country now prospers, and enact in their stead that edious system of measures which disgraced the whig party in 1841.

Such being the objects of the new party, I will now turn my attention to its avowed principles. These consist in the repeal or modification of the naturalization laws, and the proscription of the Catholic religion. Of the first of these assumed principles, I have already spoken, and must now content myself with submitting my views on the divine pretensions of this modern inquisition. I do not come as the advocate of the Catholic religion, or the applogist of the Catholic faith. Believing, as I always have, in the religious detrined for a secretary.

dissent from its doctrines, discard its heresies, and de-

sented by the church in this free and happy country on account of the political aspirations of large numbers of the clergy! Political discussions have entered their annual and general conferences, and sectional controversies have usurped the time devoted by the fathers of the church to the exposition of the Word of God.

Already have we seen its baneful influence on the most powerful branch of the Protestant church in America. Divided by its sectional strife, and torn asunder by the ambition of a portion of its clergy, not being able to live together in "peace and harmony," it has sought contentment in a dissolution of its union, and a division of its ecclesiastical government. Other denominations are said to be fol-

Nebrasks bill, and claiming, by virtue of their high caling to control the legislation of the country? In the darkers days of ignorance and religious supersition the world has ever known. Popery has never claimed greater power, and now, with unblushing effrontery, these men speak with horror of the besperal power claimed by the Pope, and call upon us to aid them in exterminating the Catholic religion of the besperal power claimed by the Pope, and call upon us to aid them in exterminating the Catholic religion of the Bible; that it was the only true exponent of the doctrines of Christ; that if was invincible, and was marching on conducting the world from supersitions error and priestly deception; that it was designed to carry the truths of the Gospel to every particular of the globe "where the ocean rolls a wave or the earth bears a plant." But, sir, I do not believe this is to be accomplished by making war upon other religious creeds, or by the ministers of the Protestant church forsaking the cause of their

the northern States, but to speak of the political results which it has accomplished.

We are told by the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. Solkers] that this party "knows no North, no South, no East, no West," and that "it is national enough to cover all parts of this wide-spread confederacy." What evidence has it given of such exalted and extended patriotism? Judged by the fruits it has produced, there is nothing in it to commend it to the American people, and more expecially the people of the South. But, on the contrary, the results of the late elections in the northern States are well calculated to cause the people of the South to pause and reflect before the late elections in the northern States are well calculated to cause the people of the South to pause and reflect before entering into bonds with this new sect. Look to the record. They have revolutionized Maine, and sent to the Senate of the United States an open, avowed, throompromising about to this House (with but one exception) they have returned abolitionists, or—what amounts to about the same in the North—whige. And the old Bay State—which stood shoulder to shoulder with the foremost in the days that tried men's souls; whose sons gave their time, means, and talents to the good work; and who notwithstanding her modern heresies, has ever had men in the Congress of the United. men's souls, whose song gave their thick means, and actast to the good work; and who, notwithstanding her modern heresies, has ever had men in the Congress of the United States who have commanded the respect and admiration of the whole country—how fares it with her? In her recent election all men of enlarged and statesmanlike views were displaced to make room for Burlingame, Comins, Davis, and Knapp, abolitionists of the darkest hue. And in the other branch of Congress, the seat once filled and adorned by Webster, Chonte, and Everett, is now to be disgraced by Henry Wilson! who, it is said, was a supporter of Henry Clay in 1844—a supporter of Van Buren and Adams in 1848—a conditionist in 1850—a republican till 1854, and afterwards a know-nothing. His only inquiry has been for the shortest cut to office. A graphic picture, Mr. Chairhan, but a true one, and a faithful likeness of more than one prominent member of this new pharisaical sect. I do not wish to do injustice to Mr. Wilson; and as his election is one of the most important political acts of the new party.

endorsed by the Massachusetts senator. Mr. Burlingame said:

"If asked to state specifically what he would do, he would answer: let, repeal the Nebraska bill; 2d, repeal the fugitive-slave law; 3d, abolish slavery in the District of Columbia; 4th, abolish the inter-State slave trade; next he would declare that slavery should not spread to one inch of the territory of the Union; he would then put the government actually and perpetually on the side of freedom, by which he meant that a bright-eved boy in Massachusetts abould have as good a chance for promotion in the navy as a boy of one of the first families in Virginia. Be would have our foreign consult sike side with the noble Kossuth and against the paper paper of the would have judges who believe in a higher law, and in an anti-slavery Good! Having thus denationalized slavery, he would not menace it in the States where it exists, but would say to the States, it is your local institution; hay it to your bosons until it destroys you. But he would say you must let our freedom we will trample you to the earth. Hond applause.] Hyon but touch the hem of the garment of freedom we will trample you to the earth. Hond applause.] This is the only position of repose, and it must come to this. He was encouraged by the recent elections in the North, and he defended the new movement, which he said was born of Puritan blood, and was against despotism of all kinds. This new party should be judged, like others, by its fruits. It had elected a champion of freedom to the United States Senate dom and not true to slavery. For himself, he could say that so long as life dwelt in his bosom, so long would he fight for liberty and against slavery. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that soon the time might come when the sun should not rise on a master nor set on a slave."

After Mr. Burlingame had taken his seat there were loud and continued calls for "Wilson," in answer to which Hon.

to extend south of Mason and Dixon's line, or who were supposed to entertain the religious dogmas which had been tabooed by this new order.

From Ohio, the national democracy have not elected a single member to the next Congress. There abolitionism, free-soilism, whigiam, or its other synonym, know-nothingism, reigns supreme!

From Michigan, the home of the great leader of the democratic party, and the able advocate of the doctrine of "non-intervention," the whigs, abolitionists, and know-nothings have decled three out of the four members to the next Congress; and the present know-nothing legislature has passed the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That our senators in Congress be, and they

they have pursued, and enter into the political arena, and, instead of preaching peace on earth and good-will to make they, instructed, and our representatives requested, to use their poserptions, the teachings of Lather and Melancthon and the triumphs of the Protestant Church will have been in was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrifice to God to norture was considered an acceptable sacrificate to God to norture considered an acceptable sacrificate to God to norture considered and the part of the sacrificate sacrificate to God to norture considered an acceptable sacrificate sacrificate to God to norture considerate to the sacrificate sacrificate to God to norture considerate to the sacrificate sacrificate sacrificate sacrificate to God to norture considerate sacrificate sacrificat

From them it will be seen that the course of the lead ever motives, are only swelling the ranks of the abolition ists and religious fanatics, and adding fuel to the flames which are now consuming the Union. And I can tell the gentleman from Maryland that if that proud Commonwealth which he has the honor in part to represent, and whose Catholic founders were among the first to establish religious toleration in the American colonies, is to bear the responsibilities and answer for the consequences of this secret political order, instead of becoming the Marathon of the Union, she will become the modern Ninevek, to bring down upon the nation the curses of the gods as a punishment for its iniquity. To avert such fatal consequences, I look to the united effort of the democratic party. Many whigh, too, I hope, will "lend a helping hand." But, sir, if deserted by all—friends and (political) foes—I, for one, will be found in the line of duty, battling against the pernicions influences of this new order; and if, in my retirement, I do not pray for "the good of Rome," I will for the safety of my own country, and invoke the gods to preserve the honor, the glory, and the perpetuity of the American Union.

*Since this speech was made Mr. Seward has been re

A sroav ros the character.—The Cincinnati Times relates the story of a "singular dream" of a young married lady of that city, who has a brother in California. In ber sleep she saw him, in his miner's hut, rise from his bed and seek a pistol and bowie-knife, and immediately afterwards saw a human hand with a dagger in it thrust through an aperture at the head of the bed and sirike upon the pillow, when the brother, with his knife, severed the hand from the arm. A yell followed, and the brother looked through the aperture, saw that there was but one, rushed out and found him dying; having thrust another knife into his body, and dragging him to the light, found him to be a Mexican. The lady told her dream, and by the late mails from California all the circumstances of it were verified by and the amendment of the Committee on Commerce was from California all the circumstances of it were verified by letter as having occurred on the night of December 6.

The Queen's bad English has not escaped ridicule in English. An advertisement appears in the London Times to the following effect:

IN CONGRESS OF THE U. STATES

Thirty-Third Congress Second Se

FRIDAY, MARCH & 1855

Ar. PEARCE stamitted an amendment appropriating about thirty thousand dollars for the completion of the works of the exploring expedition, under Commodor Wilkes; which was opposed by Messrs. RRODHEAD and DUCGLAS, and advocated by Messrs. PEARCE and SEW ARD. After some further debate, the amendment was agreed to—yeas 25, nays 18.

Mr. DAWSON submitted an amendment appropriating

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Badger, Bayard, Bell, Benjamin, Bright, Brodhead, Butter, Chase, Cooper, Dawson, Donglas, Foot, Gwin, Houston, James, Jones of Iowa, Jones of Tennessee, Mallory, Mason, Pearce, Pratt, Rusk, Seward, Shields, Stuart, Sumner, Walker, Wells, Wilson, and Wright—31.

NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Brainerd, Evans, Fitspatrick, Geyer, Gillette, Hunter, Morton, Pettit, Schastian, Slidell, Thompson of Kentucky, Thomson of New Jersey, Toombs, and Wade—15.

Mr. BADGER asked and obtained leave to introduce oill to incorporate the Washington National Monuments

Society.

On motion by Mr. HUNTER, the Senate receded from their amendments to the Military Academy bill, to which the House had disagreed, and the bill is thus passed.

Mr. HUNTER, from the Committee on Finance, reported the fortification appropriation bill, with a single amendment appropriating \$42,300 for the purchase of additional lands on Staten Island, in New York harbor; and the amendment having been agreed to, the bill was read a third time and passed.

The Post Office appropriation bill was received from the House of Representatives with various Senate amendments disagreed to; and a committee of conference was appointed on the disagreeing votes of the two houses on the said bill.

At half-past 12 the Senate adjourned to meet at ten oclock, a. m., to-morrow.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1855.

The Senate met at 10 o'clock, a. m.
On motion by Mr. BADGER, the reading of the journal
of vesterday was dispensed with.
The bill from the House of Representatives for the relief
of the widow of W. Irving, deceased, was considered and

passed.

Mr. RUSK, from the Committee on the Post Office and
Post Roads, to whom was referred the joint resolution from
the House of Representatives for the final adjustment of the
accounts of John D. Colmesnil, reported it without amendment and recommended its passage; and it was read a third

Mr. RUSK called up the bill from the House of Representatives to establish certain post-roads, and hoped it would be passed without amendment.

Mr. WELLER stated that he had designed offering an amendment providing for an express mail between St. Louis, Missouri, and San Francisco, California; but a proposition of that kind having been made in the House of Representatives, which had been voted down, he would not detain the Senate by proposing the amendment so late in the session.

detain the Senate by proposing the amendment so late in the session.

Mr. GWIN stated that he should offer that amendment. The one voted down in the House was for a daily mail, and he wanted to have a weekly mail.

Mr. RUSK thought that the insertion of that amendment would result in the defeat of the bill.

Mr. GWIN replied that the proposition which he submitted for a weekly express mail, overland, from some point on the Mississippi river to the Pacific ocean, had been reported on favorably by the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, of which his friend from Texas was chairman; and he was confident that if the amendment was adopted the House would agree to it.

lopted the House would agree to it.

Mr. HUNTER boped that the senator from California

sition.

Mr. COOPER. We will vote it down in a moment.

The question being taken, the amendment was not age to—yeas 15, nays 23—as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Adams, Bell, Brainerd, Fessenden, Foot, Gever, Gillette, Gwin, Mallory, Morton, Seward, Shields, Wade, Walker, and Weller—15.

NAYS—Messrs. Badger, Benjamin, Bright, Brodhead, Butler, Cass, Clay, Cooper, Evans, Fitzpatrick, Hunter, Jones of Iowa, Mason, Pettit, Pratt, Rusk, Sobastian, Sidell, Stuart, Thompson of Kentucky, Toombs, Wells, and Wilson—23.

The bill was then read a third time and passed without

ARMY-APPROPRIATION RILL, ETC.

Mr. SHIELDS, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two houses on the army-appropriation bill, submitted a report; which was agreed to.

Subsequently, a message was received from the House of Representatives that the report of the committee of conference was not concurred in by them; and, on motion by Mr. HUNTER, a second committee of conference was appointed.

Mr. HINTER, a second committee of conference was appointed.

The following bills from the House of Representatives were severally read a third time and passed:

Bill to establish Columbus, in the State of Mississippi, Chattanooga, in the State of Tennessee, and Hickman, in the State of Kentucky, ports of delivery.

Bill for the relief of Paul S. Ridgway, of Ohio.

Bill extending the provisions of the act of August 4, 1852, entitled "An act to grant the right of way to all rail and plank roads and macadamized turnpikes passing through the public lands belonging to the United States," to the public lands in the Territories of the United States. CIVIL AND DIPLOMATIC APPROPRIATION BILL.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill from the House of Representatives making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of government for the year ending the 30th of June, 1856, and for other pur-

Mr. SEWARD, by direction of the Committee on Com-

and the amendment of the Committee on Commerce was agreed to—yeas 24, hays 9. Mr. GWIN submitted an amendment appropriating 255,000 for the repairs of the branch mint at New Orleans.

which was agreed to.

An amendment was submitted by Mr. MALLORY providing for the settlement of the Fiorida claims under the treaty of 1819; which was rejected—year 10, mays 31.

The bill was at length read a third time and passed.

NAVAL-APPROPRIATION MILL.

Mr. HUNTER, from the Committee on Finance, repo-back the naval-appropriation bill, with an amendm which was agreed to.